



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Northeast Multispecies Amendment 16.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0605.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (revision and extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 1,482.

Average Hours Per Response: Sector operations plan and associated National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis, 640 hr/response; Monitoring service provider initial application, 10 hr/response; Monitoring service provider response to application disapproval, 10 hr/response; Data entry for sector discard monitoring system, 3 min/response; Sector weekly catch report, 4 hr/response; Sector annual report, 12 hr/response; Notification of expulsion from a sector, 30 min/response; Request to transfer Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE), 5 min/response; VMS certification form, 10 min/response; VMS confirmation call, 5 min/response; VMS area and DAS declaration, 5 min/response; VMS trip-level catch report; VMS daily catch reports when fishing

in multiple broad stock areas, 15 min/response; Daily VMS catch reports when fishing in the U.S./Canada Management Area and CA II SAPs, 15 min/response; Daily VMS catch reports when fishing in the CA I Hook Gear Haddock SAP, 15 min/response; Daily VMS catch reports when fishing in the Regular B DAS Program, 15 min/response; Pre-trip hail report, 2 min/response; Trip-end hail report, 15 min/response; Forward trip start/end hails to NMFS, 2 min/response; ASM Pre-Trip Notification, 2 min/response; Vessel notification of selection for at-sea monitoring coverage, 5 min/response; at-sea monitor deployment report, 10 min/response; at-sea monitoring service provider catch report to NMFS upon request, 5 min/response; at-sea monitor report of harassment and other issues, 30 min/response; at-sea monitoring service provider contract upon request, 30 min/response; at-sea monitoring service provider information materials upon request, 30 min/response; OLE debriefing of at-sea monitors, 2 hr/response; ASM Database and Data Entry Requirements, 3 min/response; Observer program pre-trip notification, 2 min/response; DAS Transfer Program, 5min/response; Expedited Submission of Proposed SAPs, 20 hr/response; NAFO Reporting Requirements, 10 min/response.

Burden Hours: 38,812.

Needs and Uses: This request is for revision and extension of a current information collection. Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), the Secretary of Commerce has the responsibility for the conservation and management of marine fishery resources. We, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and the Regional Fishery Management Councils are delegated the majority of this responsibility. The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) develops management plans for fishery resources in New England.

In 2010, we implemented a new suite of regulations for the Northeast (NE) multispecies fishery through Amendment 16 to the Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (Amendment 16). This action updated status determination criteria for all regulated NE multispecies or ocean pout stocks; adopted rebuilding programs for NE multispecies stocks newly classified as being overfished and subject to overfishing; revised management measures, including significant revisions to the sector management measures, necessary to end overfishing, rebuild overfished regulated NE multispecies and ocean pout stocks, and mitigate the adverse economic impacts of increased effort controls. It also implemented new requirements under Amendment 16 for establishing acceptable biological catch (ABC), annual catch limits (ACLs), and accountability measures (AMs) for each stock managed under the FMP, pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act).

Revisions:

This revision incorporates a number of recent changes related to regulatory actions. Framework Adjustment 48 to the FMP (78 FR 26118; May 3, 2013) proposed to exempt sector vessels targeting monkfish from the additional at-sea monitoring coverage necessary to monitor groundfish catch. This measure was intended to allocate limited at-sea monitoring resources to monitor those trips that catch the most groundfish. To implement this measure, NMFS added a question to both the pre-trip notification and Northeast Fisheries Observer Program notification to allow fishermen to indicate what fishery they intend to participate in. This change allowed NMFS to identify trips that may qualify for this exemption, in order to deploy observers and at-sea monitors appropriately to achieve the coverage levels required by the FMP. Framework 48 also eliminated the dockside monitoring program established under Amendment 16 because

NMFS determined dealer reporting combined with dockside intercepts by enforcement personnel are sufficient to ensure reliable landings data. Elimination of the dockside monitoring program was not included in the applicable non-substantive change request and thus this change will be included in the revision/extension.

As part of Framework Adjustment 53 to the FMP (80 FR 25110; May 1, 2015), NMFS implemented a requirement that vessels that declare trips into the Gulf of Maine Broad Stock Area and any other broad stock area (i.e., Georges Bank or Southern New England) on the same trip submit a daily catch report via vessel monitoring system (VMS). We determined the daily VMS trip reports were necessary to ensure accurate apportionment of catch and help enforcement efforts. This requirement was approved temporarily through emergency PRA approval. We are proposing to permanently adjust this information collection to include this reporting requirement.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Annually, on occasion, weekly, daily and as requested.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Dated: October 16, 2015.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

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